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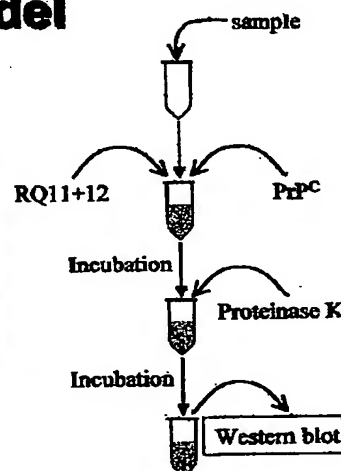
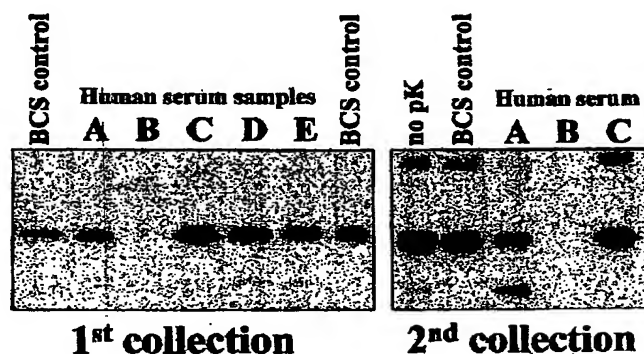
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(54) Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS USED FOR IDENTIFYING FACTORS REQUIRED FOR THE AGGLOMERATION OF PROTEINS

## Prion disease model

**"Q-factor" is present in human blood serum**

(57) Abstract: Described herein are compositions and methods for identifying cellular factors involved in protein agglomeration. One such factor is a nucleic acid component. Another factor is a cellular macromolecular co-binding component. The presence of certain NAs and co-binding factors facilitate the agglomeration of certain proteins. The compositions and methods described herein are employed to identify this factors involved in the protein agglomeration process. Moreover, methods for assessing the efficacy of a pharmaceutical agent in protecting prion proteins is also described herein.